THE Lions' Pride
OF SAINT LEO UNIVERSITY

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2005 VOLUME XXXIX NO. 3 SINCE 1965

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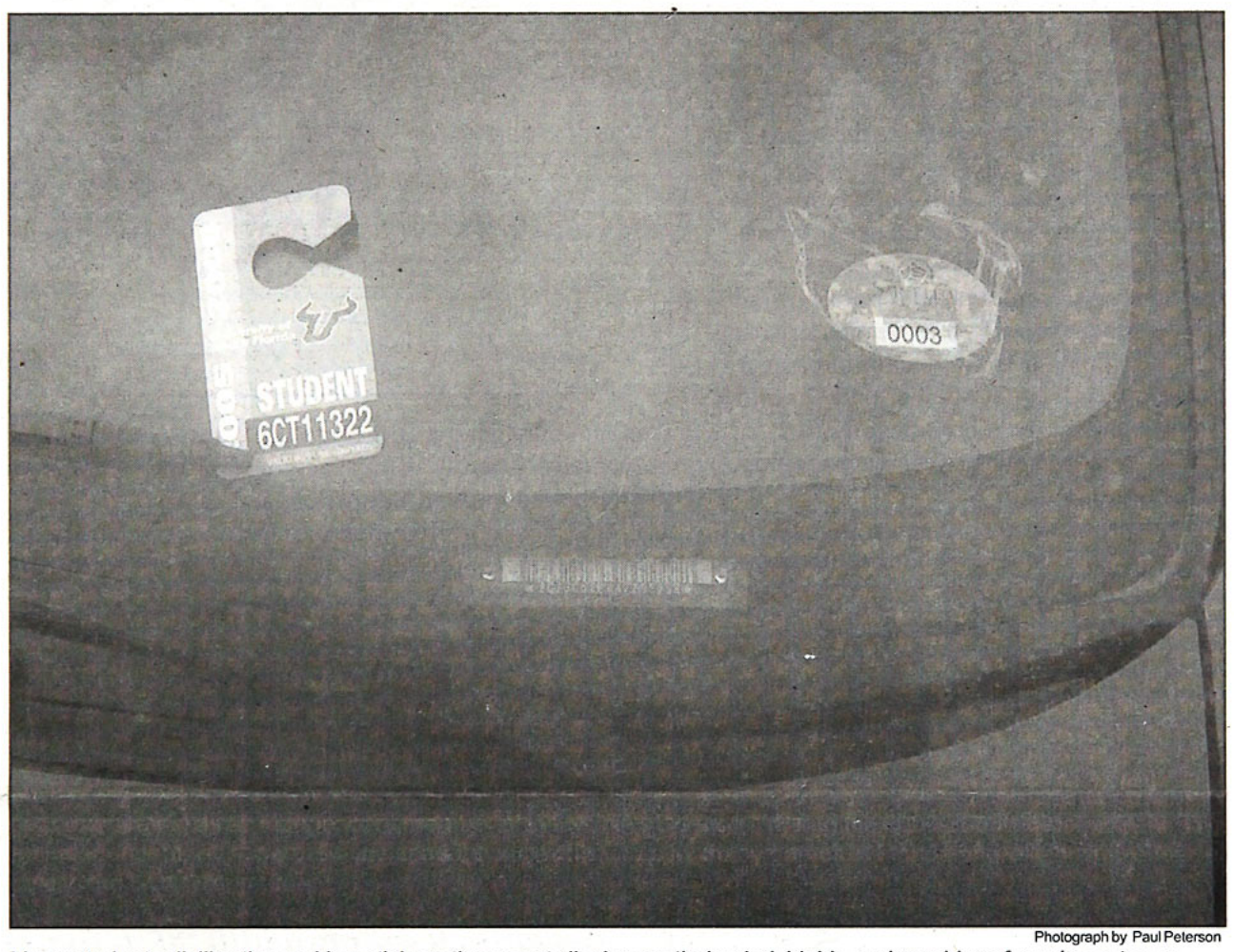

Photograph by Paul Peterson

Many students dislike the parking stickers they must display on their windshields and would prefer a hang tag or static cling parking pass.

Portable parking passes are easily removable and replaceable

BY PAUL PETERSON
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

SAINT LEO - Walking through any of Saint Leo's parking lots, it really is surprising how many nice cars there are. Many of the cars look brand new without a scratch on them.

"There's just one problem," said Cassie Millhouse, a student who has been saving money for years and just recently bought a nice car. "Those stupid parking stickers are so hard to get off."

It doesn't take much time walking through a parking lot to notice a car with two, three, or four stickers unseemly jumbled in the corner of its windshield.

What about the more traditional collegiate cars, the ones with rusted out bottoms and side panels that are different faded colors? If a car like that should break down, how is one supposed to transfer its sticker to a borrowed or rented car? A student would either have to go to train stop and get another sticker or risk tickets during the time his car is in the shop.

USF, UCF, FSU, PHCC and all of the public schools in the far-reaching area have parking tags that clip on to the back of a rear view mirror. They are easily removable, easily replaceable, and easily transferred to other vehicles. Maybe they are more expensive, but the advantages to such a parking tag much outweigh a small price increase.

Parking tag fees for Saint Leo students are $10 for residents and $5 for commuters. Should these prices go up by 50 percent to $15 and $7.50, the parking fee would still be over $100 less than commuter parking at USF and cheaper than a parking pass at Pasco High School. Furthermore, it is doubtful that such an increase would be necessary if Sainte Leo were to switch to rear view mirror parking passes.

"It would have been worth more than $20 to not have to mess with those stickers," said recent graduate Nicole O'dell, whose truck still displays two stickers on its windshield.

It would clearly be beneficial to Saint Leo students to switch to a more portable type of parking pass.

"I would prefer the static cling passes that my high school used," said sophomore Alicia Ridley. "The hanging passes get distracting when they sway."

"I hope that in the near future this is addressed," said a freshman student looking to buy a car.

In the meantime, students would be well advised to put a piece of saran wrap on their windshield, then attach the parking sticker to the saran wrap and cut away the excess saran wrap.

Opinions

EDITORIAL

Political apathy hurts the future of all college students

BY JENNIFER REILLY
Lions' Pride Editor

During the fall semester of 2004, the cafeteria, residence halls, and classroom buildings were cluttered with political propaganda urging Saint Leo students to vote and express their political opinions. Websites such as Moveon.org and Rockthevote.com created a political fad that reached Saint Leo's campus creating not only a political movement but also a fashion trend. Students wore moveon.org t-shirts and support bracelets while carrying posters and flyers encouraging their classmates to vote.

Now, one short year later, the political opinions of Saint Leo students are about as topical as Karl Rove's mouth is shut. There must be thousands of political opinions and ideas in the minds of intelligent students, but why have they not found their way into a forum of campus communication?

Popular student databases, like Myspace.com and Faceboook.com, currently allow students to form groups based on their interests, majors, and even political affiliations. However, these groups have not spread onto the campus, where the majority of communication takes place.

As college students, we should be concerned with the effects of our government on our tuition, social security, careers, and general state of our nation. Several bills have been announced in Congress regarding the high price of attending college. Bill Number H.R. 1425 aims to improve the efficiency of federal student loans so that there is more grant aid for students. Additionally, Bill Number H.R. 3960 will provide relief and financial services to students who were affected by Hurricane Katrina and other natural disasters. Florida is often affected during hurricane season; one day Saint Leo students may need a Bill like this. These movements directly affect the students of the hallowed halls of Saint Leo, and there are hundreds more like them.

However, there seems to be little participation of Saint Leo students in taking political action or engaging in political debates. If there are students addressing their concerns about the future of our government, why is it they are not in front of the cafeteria as often as other student organizations? Why don't they wear t-shirts with letters and words symbolizing their involvement?

Before the elections, the Saint Leo chapter of the College Republicans spent afternoons in front of the cafeteria registering students to vote. After the elections passed, they felt they had achieved their purpose by helping their candidate get elected. The group basically dismembered and no longer sits in front of the cafeteria trying to help their current president. Students are not politically involved because it does not fit into their busy schedules, but if they ever needed anything, these same students would expect political action.

The anticipation of a presidential election is typically the inspiration for political activity. Nevertheless, college students need to express their right to be involved in the political process of their nation between election years. If students don't get involved, social security will continue to diminish and there will be none left for us. If students don't do something, textbook prices will continue to rise. And finally, if students cannot realize the importance of politics, our futures will be in the hands of others. The students of Saint Leo University are intelligent enough to make decisions about the future of our nation and then act upon them. They need to start here and now by establishing a speech and debate team, by organizing groups based on political parties, or by creating groups designed to satisfy a particular political goal.

> ***"However, there seems to be little participation of Saint Leo students in taking political action or engaging in political debates."***

WRITE HERE

The Lions' Pride newsroom is located in portable #4, which is on the west side of St. Edward's Hall. Our phone number is (352) 588-8195.

Send letters to the editor to lions.pride@saintleo.edu

Letters to the editor must be submitted with student's name, year, and major. Faculty and staff members must include rank and department.

Please include a phone number (not for publication) so we can verify authorship.

All letters are subject to editing.
The Lions' Pride reserves the right not to publish any letter or column.

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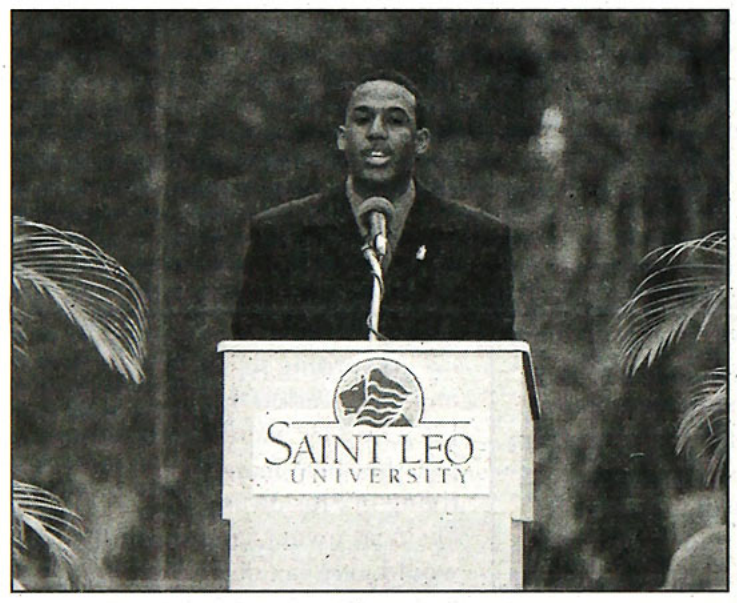
Despite Wilma, Homecoming 2005 was a success

SAINT LEO - Despite the threat of Hurricane Wilma, Saint Leo University welcomed students, parents, and alumni to Homecoming Weekend 2005, which ran Friday, Oct. 21 through Sunday, Oct. 23. Homecoming 2005 combined Family Weekend and Alumni Weekend for one great family celebration. Alumni returned to their alma mater to socialize with old classmates and meet new friends, and parents spent time with their children and met the faculty.

Homecoming events started with golf at Lake Jovita Golf and County Club. There was plenty of time and events for socializing before the women's soccer game between Saint Leo and Lynn University, and the evening ended listening to *Time Warp* on the deck of the McDonald Center. On Saturday, the President's Annual Welcome and Residence Halls Dedication Brunch started off the day, followed by Student Activities' Fall Festival. A choice of watching the men's soccer team play Lynn University or Xtreme Games was available during the afternoon. Toward the evening, the fall play, "The Good Times are Killing Me" drew a crowd. A 50s-style dinner in the McDonald Center, a Saturday night drive-in movie, and women's softball ended the day. On Sunday, a farewell brunch and a production of the play were available to everyone.



The above pictures from Homecoming Weekend 2005 show an array of activities in which students, faculty, and alumni could participate: the talent show, the fair, and the residence dedication brunch.

Daylight Saving Time—Not Just An Ending

BY DIANE EDWARDS
Lions' Pride Online Staff Writer

SAINT LEO (COL) - For those unaware, it is commonly, yet incorrectly, believed that the correct spelling pluralizes the "saving" in Daylight Saving Time. Although saving is typically pluralized because it sounds better, it is still incorrect. Even dictionaries list this common usage, further confusing the term. According to WebExhibits, the official spelling is indeed "Daylight Saving Time."

This year the Daylight Saving Time (DST) ends at 2 a.m. on Sunday, October 30. For those affected by DST, the clocks should be turned back one hour before bedtime.

Interestingly enough, most of Arizona, excluding the Navajo Indian Reservation, Guam, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, Hawaii, and the Eastern Time Zone section of Indiana, do not participate in DST. Currently, DST begins at 2 a.m. the first Sunday of April and ends at 2 a.m. the last Sunday of October every year.

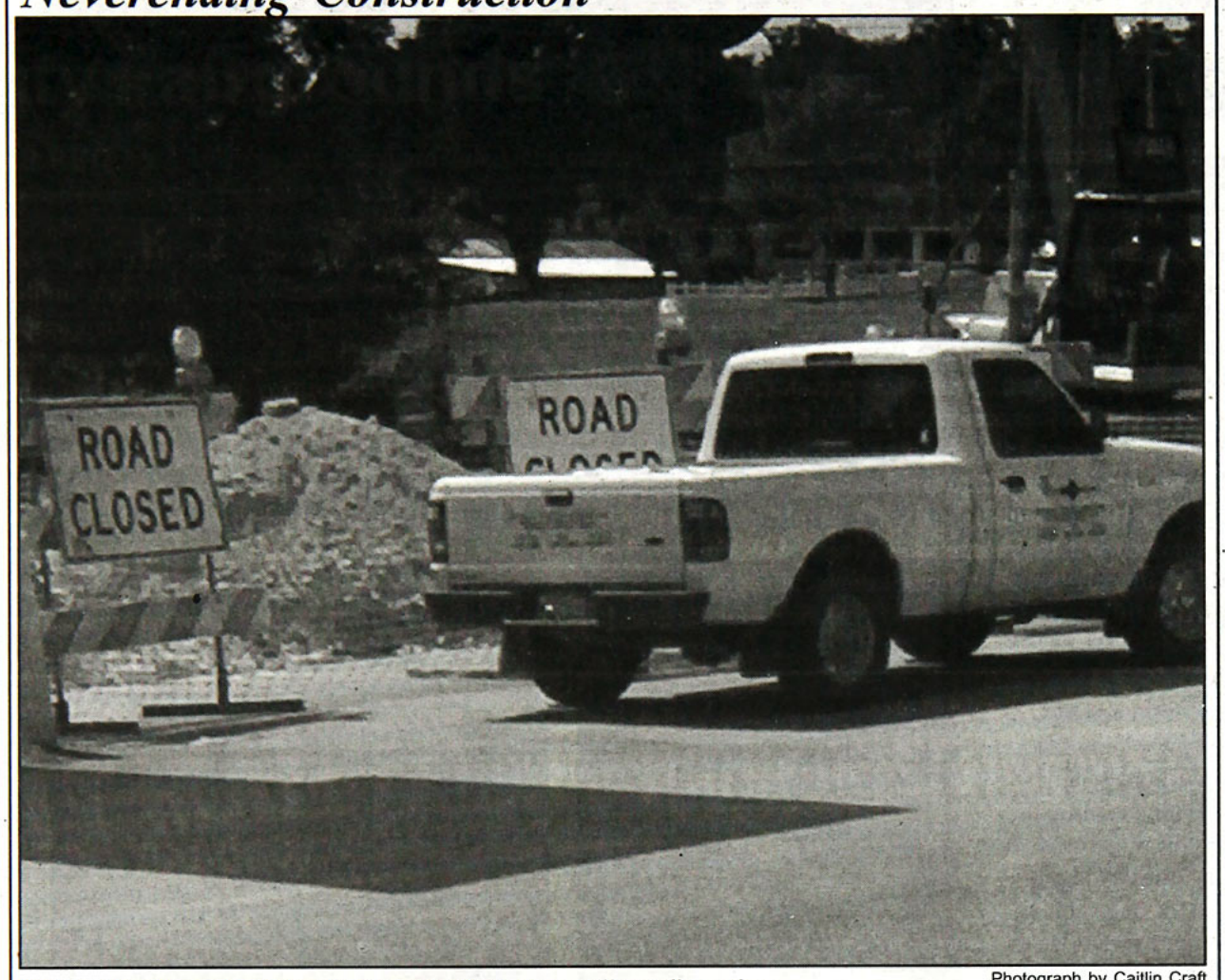
Beginning in the year 2007, according to the California Energy Commission and the Energy Policy Act of 2005, DST is to be extended by one month. It will begin at 2 a.m. the second Sunday of March and will end at 2 a.m. the first Sunday of November. The California Energy Commission confirms that this new change, was just signed on August 8, 2005 by President George W. Bush.

For more information on DST please visit http://webexhibits.org/daylightsaving or www.energy.ca.gov. Remember on October 30 to fall back, not spring forward.

We want YOU to write for US!

If you have an interest in writing for the newspaper,
please attend our weekly meeting on Monday at 9:00 a.m. in the newspaper office,
which is in the portable next to the music building.

Neverending Construction



The roadwork on SR 52 has been and will continue to be a disruption. Photograph by Caitlin Craft

Construction Roadwork on SR 52

BY FRANCINE ROSARIO
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

SAINT LEO - So everyone has seen it, and it has affected everyone in one way or another: the construction outside of campus on State Road 52.

"Although I don't leave campus that often, I think it's annoying when they keep changing the entrance and there is no obvious sign that the entrance has been changed and you pass right by it and have to turn around," junior Jessica Woods said.

"I think it's a little dangerous because it's hard to see oncoming traffic during the day time," said senior Leonard Bates.

The construction project, in this case, is the widening of State Road 52 to 12 foot lanes with a combination of turning lanes, 5 foot wide paved shoulders, minor drainage, and some ditch ponds, which gets done by the lowest bidder, D.A.D constructors.

"People actually think the Department of Transportation has their own construction workers. We do for small projects but not for road work. We hire contractors," Kris Carson from the Department of Transportation said.

Unfortunately, the work is supposed to finalize next summer; however, this does not mean the construction work will be in front of Saint Leo University only. It is said by the Department of Transportation. that it will go all the way into San Antonio, and because of this, will take until next summer to finalize.

Congressional bill to decrease college funding

BY FELICIA MANN
The Oracle (U. South Florida)

(U-WIRE) TAMPA, Fla. — Nov. 18 and 19 may affect college students for the rest of their lives. As Congress considers House Resolution 609, which would add $5,800 to the average student debt by cutting $9 billion from federal student loans, the financial future of those attending or planning on attending college is in jeopardy.

HR 609, if passed, will be the largest budget cut in education history, according to Studentaidaction.com. The bill will increase student loan interest rates from 6.8 percent to 8.25 percent.

On Sept. 24, student body President Maxon Victor and Vice President Sameer Ahmed flew to Washington, D.C., to persuade Congress not to pass the bill.

"Overall, how accessible are we making college?" Victor said. "It is becoming less possible for students who really need it."

According to USF student lobbyist Silverlee Hernandez, the resolution concerns college loan rates for students nationwide.

The proposed budget will also put a $6,000 cap on Pell Grants, according to the United States Student Association. According to Victor, the average fixed cost of Pell Grants for public institutions has been cut in half in the past 20 years, from 84 to 42 percent.

"This is a sour turn for all universities," Victor said.

Passing a bill such as HR 609 will only discourage students from going to college, he said.

Since 2004 when the bill was proposed, students have been rallying together to stop its passage.

"It is so big that every university in Florida is lobbying this," Hernandez said. According to Victor, a representative from every public state university, except the University of Florida and New College, were in attendance at the Capitol.

The Florida Student Association met with 15 different members of Congress to voice their opposition to the bill. After the meetings, Victor said he was disappointed, having spoken to more assistants than actual Congressional leaders.

"They knew that we were coming. We went to 10 offices, and only four of the Congress members met with us," Victor said.

Of the four he met with, Victor said he was told that Hurricane Katrina and the war in Iraq have put higher-education issues such as HR 609 on the backburner. Higher education is not a priority in Congress, Victor said.

Still, Congressmen such as Dennis Kucinich, D-Ohio, and Bill Nelson, D-Fla., supported the students by opposing HR 609.

"Senator Kucinich has become our point man," Hernandez said.

Kucinich has organized student body presidents across Florida, encouraging them to write letters to Congress explaining why HR 609 should not be passed in order to discourage voting the bill through, Victor said.

According to Victor, House member Mario Diaz-Balart, R-Fla., said he wanted HR 609 to pass because many people living in Florida are small business owners and this bill would give tax cuts to people making more than $200,000.

Supporters of HR 609 claim Pell Grants would increase by $200 over the next six years. The proposed cap on Pell Grants does not take inflation into consideration, Victor said.

Last year, tuition increased by 10.5 percent at four-year universities and 8.7 percent at community colleges, according to Studentaidaction.com. To offset potential budget cuts, colleges have been raising tuition costs.

Victor, along with the FSA, also lobbied to get tax-free textbooks.

"Our tuition is tax-free, so why shouldn't our textbooks be?" Victor asked. "Students are always at the bottom of the barrel and we always get the short end of the stick."

If passed, HR 609 will also make budget cuts to health care, veterans funding, food stamps and cut $10 billion from Medicare.

Country music groups featured at Pasco County Fairgrounds

BY JENNIFER REILLY
Lions' Pride Editor

On November 5 at 7 p.m., the Dan Cannon Auditorium at the Pasco County Fairgrounds will host a concert featuring three of today's top country music groups. The concert features Fanny Grace, Ricochet, and Emerson Drive.

Fanny Grace consists of Carmen Mejia and Paul Reeves, a duo with a unique sound and a unique background. Mejia grew up in San Fernando Valley and at one point was an actress who worked on *Saved by the Bell*. Reeve grew up in war-torn Belfast, Northern Ireland until his family escaped to New York. A chance meeting grew into a strong relationship and has lead to the duo performing as opening acts for Willie Nelson and Kenny Chesney.

Ricochet is a five-member band that has released four albums. They have been named "Best New Vocal Group," by the Academy of Country Music and Billboard Magazine. Their hit single *Daddy's Money* reached number one in Billboard. Ricochet, as well as Fanny Grace, will be opening for Emerson Drive. Emerson Drive includes six of today's most popular country music artists. In 2003, they succeeded Ricochet and were awarded the "Best New Vocal Group" by the Academy of Country Music. They have toured with country music superstars Toby Keith, Alan Jackson, and Shania Twain.

Tickets for the concert are general admission and cost $29. For those interested in a premium concert experience, there is a VIP ticket deal that costs $500 and includes 8 VIP passes, admission into a pre-concert party, and 4 VIP parking passes. Seating is limited for this event and is likely to sell out. To purchase general admission tickets or VIP packages, go online to www.centralfloridaconcerts.com or call the concert hotline at (813) 719 1051.

Arts & Entertainment

Halloween Hauntings

A surplus of activities can be found during the Halloween weekend.

BY JENNIFER REILLY
Lions' Pride Editor

This Halloween students can look forward to frightful entertainment, sweet treats, and fun parties. In addition to on campus fun available to students, annual theme park special events in the Tampa Bay area include Busch Garden's Howl' O Scream and Universal's Halloween Horror Nights. These events take place every weekend in October and on select weekdays. They feature frightening haunted houses, Halloween themed shows, and select rides. Universal's Halloween Horror Nights has now been expanded to include both Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure.

Both parks offer entertainment, but not for the faint of heart. Last year, park employees dressed as hideous creatures and walked through crowds revving up chain saws. This is the type of entertainment that should be expected from the haunted theme parks.

"I love the feeling of being scared, although I know it's not real, it scares the bejesus out of me. I think the costumes are so intricate with gory details that it really adds to the Halloween environment," says Saint Leo Carly Romero.

"I think clowns are downright the scariest things ever. If one of those bloody clowns ever jumped out at me I think I would have a heart attack," said Jenn Roberge.

Howl' O Scream visitors are also sure to see plenty of clowns and other gory costumes among the carnival, mortuary, and insane asylum themed haunted houses. Costumes are prohibited at both Universal and Busch Gardens, but Ybor City offers a Halloween festival that allows patrons to dress up in costumes and participate in a costume contest which offers a $2,000 cash prize to the first place winner.

Guavaween "Sin in the City" includes a family fun fest during the day on October 29 and nighttime entertainment including concerts in heart of Centro Ybor.

No matter what your plans, this Halloween should prove to be a fun one with the many options available for entertainment, on and off campus.

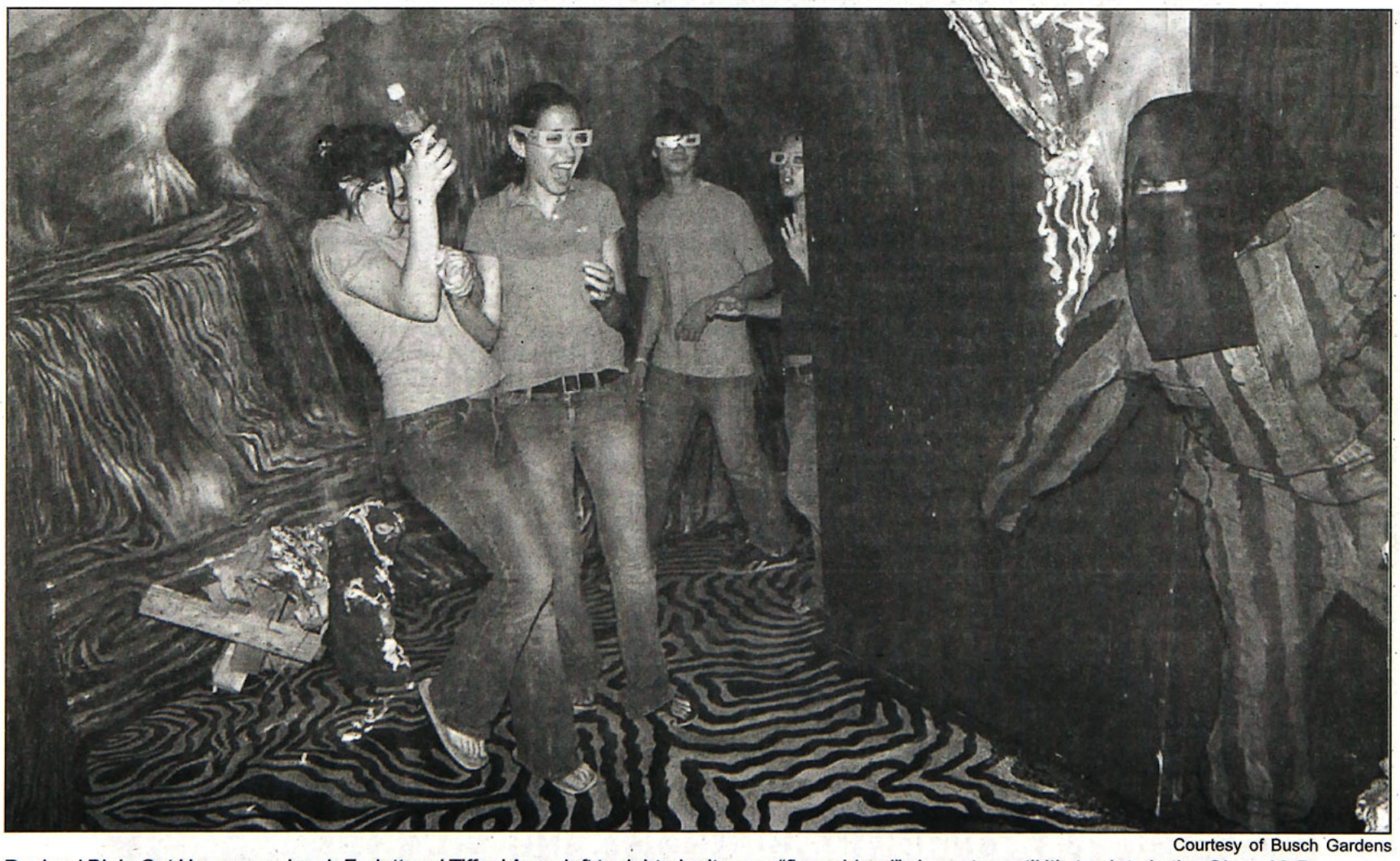
Sites of Fright

Here are the scenes for screams this Halloween weekend:

Howl-O-Scream at Busch Gardens in Tampa runs through October 31. General Admission is $55.95 although tickets can be bought in advance for $6-10 less. Call 1(888) 800-5447 or visit www.buschgardens.com or www.howl-o-scream.com for more information

Halloween Horror Nights at Universal Studios and Universal Islands of Adventure in Orlando runs through October 31. Admission is $54.75 with discounts available. Call 1 (800) 837-2273 or visit www.uescape.com for more information.

Guavaween in Ybor City is a night of costumed revelry that offers live music on multiple stages. It starts Saturday, October 29 at 3 p.m. General Admission is $12.00. For information visit www.cc-events.org/gw/.



Courtesy of Busch Gardens

Rachael Blair, Cat Hoeppner, Jacob Furlott and Tiffani Amo, left to right, don't see a "flame blend" character until it's too late in the *Chaos!* 3-D haunted house at Busch Gardens Howl-O-Scream.

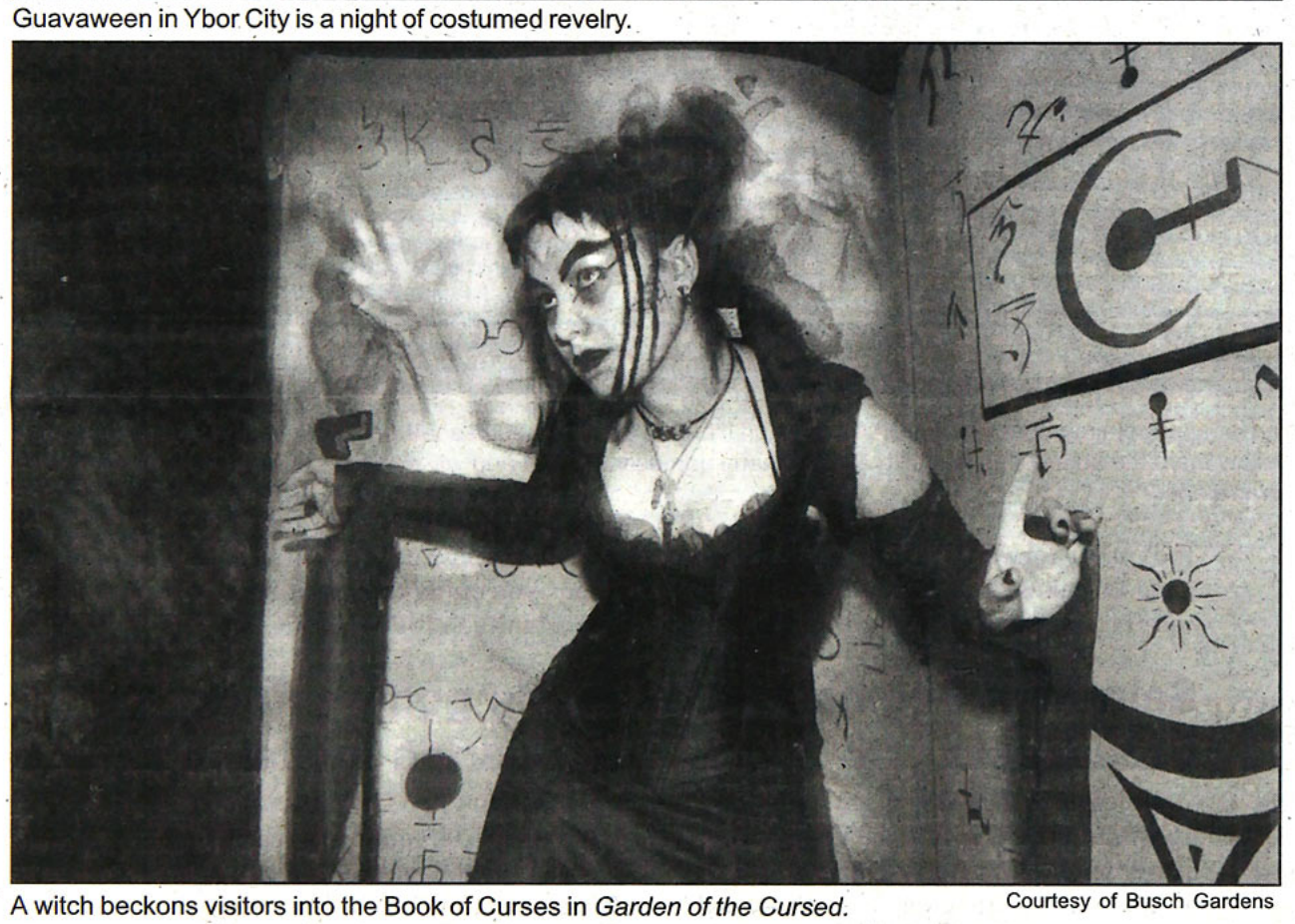
Guavaween in Ybor City is a night of costumed revelry.

Henderson Hall Horror

BY CAITLIN CRAFT
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Look out Busch Gardens. Step aside Universal Studios. Saint Leo is hot on your tail with our own bone-chilling haunted house. The third floor of the Henderson dormitory, closest to the softball fields, has taken it upon themselves to produce a frightful experience that includes the community bathrooms and laundry room. The residents, along with their resident advisors, have gathered a few household items and created something scary and R rated for gruesomeness and violence. Their inspiration came from movies like *The Ring* and Halloween ghost stories like Bloody Mary. This haunted house is not without warning. A curtain draped at one end of the hallway reminds visitors to enter at their own risk, and other warnings, such as a grueling death in seven days, scatter the walls of this nightmare-like dormitory path.

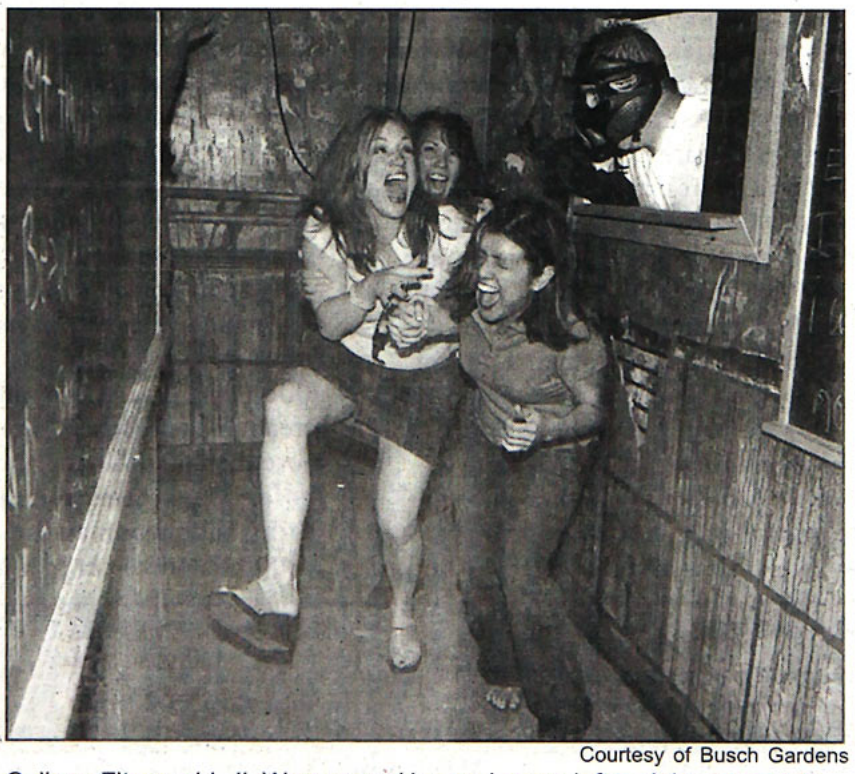
Do the windsocks blow gently in the wind of the air conditioning or is it the spirit of the hall that make them sway to and fro? Red hand prints and glow-in-the-dark skeletons speckle the walls. The suspicion that you are not alone overcomes you when you see those big words written on the wall. The bulletin board is covered with black and orange paper and white howling ghosts. The ghosts urge you to read the urban legends, ghost stories, and haunted tails that will come to you in your darkest nightmares. The outline of bodies with white chalk make these legends seem like something to be afraid of. Students beware. Third floor Henderson is the stuff of wild nightmares, ones you can not escape, and if you aren't careful you might not escape this hallway.



A witch beckons visitors into the Book of Curses in *Garden of the Cursed.* Courtesy of Busch Gardens

Courtesy of Busch Gardens

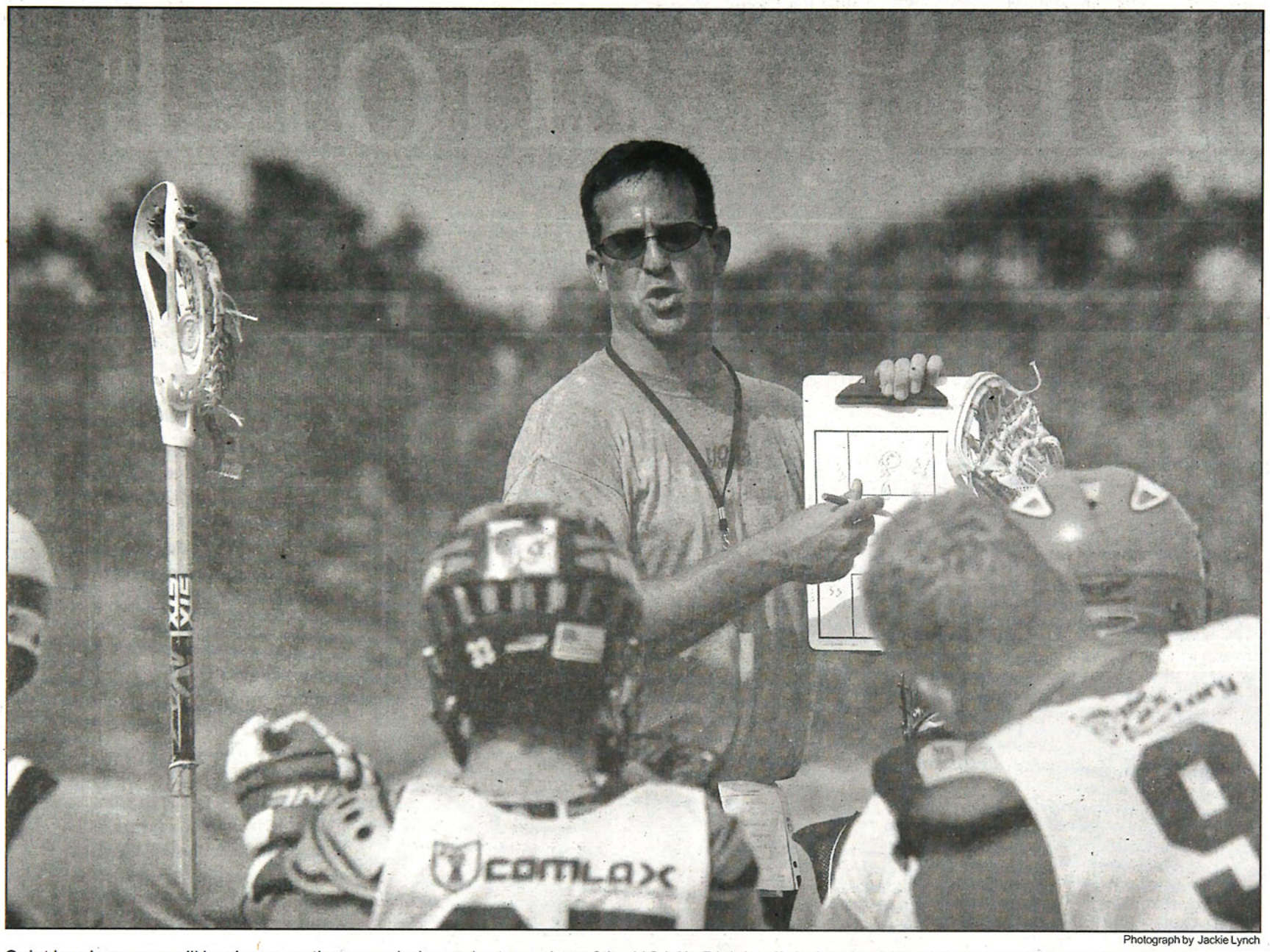
Cat Hoeppner, Tiffani Amo, Jacob Furlott and Fallon Blair, left to right, can't escape *D.A.D.,* the *Department of Asylum Detainment*, in the *Escape From Insanity: Lockdown*



Courtesy of Busch Gardens

Colleen Fitzgerald, JL Wagner and Leana Lopez, left to right, attempt to find strength in numbers while experiencing *Escape From Insanity: Lockdown*

Sports



Photograph by Jackie Lynch

Saint Leo Lacrosse will begin competing as an independent member of the NCAA's Division II during the 2005-2006 academic year. The coach believes their status as an independent will allow them the scheduling flexibility to play many games in Florida and will minimize missed class time while they compete for a bid to the NCAA tournament.

Seven soccer players honored by SSC

Four Saint Leo University men's soccer players and three women's soccer players were named to the Sunshine State Conference Commissioner's List of Outstanding Achievement for the months of August and September.

Freshman midfielder/forward Eusebio Montoya of Smithfield, NC (eight goals, four assists and 20 points); senior goalkeeper Matias Perez of Buenos Aires, Argentina (0.68 goals against average); junior forward Asmir Pervan of Simmern, Germany (15 goals, five assists and 35 points); and senior defender Brent Stanze of Dayton, OH (defensive leader that permitted an average of 0.55 goals per match in the team's 8-1 start) were men's soccer players honored.

The SSC honored women's soccer players Lauren Hudson, a freshman from New Port Richey, Fla., whose goals against average was 1.24; junior midfielder Jennifer O'Connor of Fernandina Beach, Fla., who had six goals, two assists and a total of 14 points; and junior forward Casie Poyssick of Land O'Lakes, Fla., who scored six goals, had five assists and 17 total points.

Saint Leo Begins Audio Broadcasts

Beginning Tuesday night with the Sunshine State Conference volleyball home match with Barry University at 7 o'clock, live audio game broadcasts will become available for the Saint Leo University community on the athletics' portion of the web site at www.saintleo.edu/athletics. There is no charge to listen to the games. Just visit the web site to see how easy it is to navigate to the broadcast site.
A broadcast schedule will also be provided Tuesday for future events.

Stretch Internet, in its third year of working with Division I and Division II athletic programs, provides audio streaming and other Internet services to more than 60 colleges, universities, professional teams and radio stations, while reaching an audience of more than 25,000 listeners per month.

The Saint Leo Athletic Department hopes you enjoy this exciting new opportunity to follow Lions' athletics.

Men's golfers finish 13th In Spartan Invitational

The Saint Leo University men's golf team placed 13th out of 14 teams in the Spartan Invitational held October 10-11 at Rogers Park in Tampa, Fla. Florida Tech and Lynn University tied for first place in the 54-hole event with scores of 875. Saint Leo finished 301-307-316—924, which was 72 strokes over par.

Junior Jacob Halligan of Taylor, KY was low finisher for the Lions. He finished tied for 27th overall at 74-73-76—223. He was followed by sophomore Chris Marinaro of Pittsfield, MA, who tied for 62nd place at 74-78-80—232; freshman Bryan Jonasson of Needham, MA, who tied for 71st place at 74-81-80—235; sophomore Jonathan Mine of Zephyrhills, Fla., who finished 84th at 79-79-80—238; and junior Ben Shulman of Canadaigus, NY, who tied for 88th place at 81-77-82—240.

Sports Stats...

Men's soccer (9-1):
SLU 1, University of Montevallo 0
SLU 5, Southeastern College 0
SLU 0, Rollins College 2
SLU 4, Thomas University 0
SLU 5, Nova Southeastern 0

Women's soccer (5-3-2):
SLU 1, University of Montevallo 1
SLU 2, Rollins College 1 OT
SLU 1, Nova Southeastern 1
SLU 3, Florida Southern 0
SLU 1, Barry University 3

Men's Cross Country:
NCAA Pre-Regional 14th
Walt Disney World Classic Invitat. 28th

Women's Cross Country:
NCAA Pre-Regional 16th
Walt Disney World Classic Invitat. 32nd

Volleyball (8-11):
SLU 3, Clearwater Christian 0
SLU 3, Rollins College 0
SLU 3, Eckerd College 0
SLU 0, Florida Southern 3
SLU 0, University of Tampa 3